

Tips for Parents

to prevent lead poisoning in young children



Wash your child's hands often, especially before he or she eats.



Cover peeling or flaking paint with contact paper or duct tape. You can also block peeling or flaking paint with heavy furniture.



Wash windows, doorways, floors, and dusty areas often with a wet mop or cloth. Use two buckets, one with detergent and water for washing and one with clean water for rinsing.



Pick up loose paint chips and throw them away. Never vacuum paint chips.



Have your child play in grassy areas or in a covered sandbox. Keep your child out of the dirt.



Wash clothes separately from the rest of the family if you work around lead paint (renovating houses, welding, autobody work, boatyard work, electrical work, etc).



Feed your child healthy foods including fruits, vegetables, milk, cheese, meat, and fish.



Never use hot water from the faucet for drinking or cooking. Run cold water for at least one minute before using.

All children under age six must be tested for lead once a year.

**For more information call the Family Health
Information Line, 1-800-942-7434
or go to www.health.ri.gov/lead**

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Healthy Homes
Healthy Children